

What Is Claimed Is:

1. An infection management system, comprising:  
a catheter with a lumen extending therethrough;  
a side-arm tube extending laterally from a side of the catheter, wherein  
5 the side-arm tube is located in a region of the catheter which remains outside a  
patient's body, and  
a lumen through the side-arm tube communicates with the catheter lumen;  
a one-way valve which prevents fluid flow from the catheter lumen through the side-  
arm tube lumen without preventing fluid flow through the catheter lumen; and  
10 an antimicrobial agent-bearing intervention device configured to be inserted through  
the side-arm tube lumen and the one-way valve into the catheter lumen.
2. The infection management system of claim 1, wherein  
the catheter comprises a catheter body and an extension joined to a proximal end of  
15 the catheter body, the extension having a lumen extending longitudinally therethrough and in  
communication with the catheter lumen, and  
the side-arm tube extends laterally from the catheter extension.
3. The infection management system of claim 1, wherein  
20 the antimicrobial agent-bearing intervention device comprises an antimicrobial  
agent-bearing rod.
4. The infection management system of claim 3, wherein  
the antimicrobial agent-bearing rod comprises a flexible polymer rod.  
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5. The infection management system of claim 1, wherein  
the antimicrobial agent is iodine.
6. The infection management system of claim 1, wherein

a region of the catheter to be located within the patient's body comprises a material which permits passage of an antimicrobial agent released from the antimicrobial agent-bearing intervention device from the catheter lumen to an outer surface of the catheter.

5     7.     The infection management system of claim 3, further comprising:

a cap, wherein the antimicrobial agent-bearing rod is affixed to the cap, and the cap is adapted to seal a proximal end of the side-arm tube after the antimicrobial agent-bearing rod is inserted into the catheter lumen.

10    8.     The infection management system of claim 7, wherein  
the cap has a threaded portion that cooperates with a threaded portion on the side-arm tube.

15    9.     The infection management system of claim 7, wherein  
the cap is a stopper sized to frictionally engage and seal the proximal end of the side-arm tube.

10.    An infection management method, comprising the steps of:  
providing a catheter with a lumen extending therethrough, a side-arm tube extending  
20 laterally from a side of the catheter, wherein the side-arm tube is located in a region of the catheter which remains outside a patient's body and a lumen through the side-arm tube communicates with the catheter lumen, and a one-way valve located to prevent fluid flow from the catheter lumen through the side-arm tube lumen without preventing fluid flow through the catheter lumen; and  
25 inserting an antimicrobial agent-bearing intervention device through the side-arm tube and the one-way valve into the catheter lumen.

11.    The infection management method of claim 10, wherein  
the catheter comprises a catheter body and an extension joined to a proximal end of  
30 the catheter body, the extension having a lumen extending longitudinally therethrough and in communication with the catheter lumen, and

the side-arm tube extends laterally from the catheter extension.

12. The infection management method of claim 10, wherein  
the antimicrobial agent-bearing intervention device comprises an antimicrobial  
5 agent-bearing rod.

13. The infection management method of claim 12, wherein  
the antimicrobial agent-bearing rod comprises a flexible polymer rod.

10 14. The infection management method of claim 10, wherein  
the antimicrobial agent is iodine.

15. The infection management method of claim 10, wherein  
a region of the catheter to be located within the patient's body comprises a material  
15 which permits passage of antimicrobial agent released from the antimicrobial agent-bearing  
intervention device from the catheter lumen to an outer surface of the catheter.

16. The infection management method of claim 10, further comprising:  
a cap, wherein the antimicrobial agent-bearing rod is affixed to the cap, and the cap is  
20 adapted to seal a proximal end of the side-arm tube after the antimicrobial agent-bearing rod  
is inserted into the catheter lumen.

17. The infection management method of claim 16, wherein  
the cap has a threaded portion that cooperates with a threaded portion on the side-arm  
25 tube.

18. The infection management method of claim 16, wherein  
the cap is a stopper sized to frictionally engage and seal the proximal end of the side-  
arm tube.

19. An anti-infection catheter, comprising  
a main catheter tube with a lumen extending therethrough;  
a side-arm tube extending laterally from a side of the main catheter tube, wherein  
the side-arm tube is located in a region of the catheter which remains outside a  
5 patient's body, and  
a lumen through the side-arm tube communicates with the lumen of the main  
catheter tube;  
a one-way valve adapted to permit passage of an antimicrobial agent-bearing  
intervention device between the side-arm tube lumen and the main catheter tube lumen while  
10 preventing fluid flow from the main catheter tube lumen through the side-arm tube lumen,  
wherein the one-way valve does not prevent fluid flow through the main catheter tube lumen.
20. The anti-infection catheter of claim 21, wherein  
the main catheter tube comprises a catheter body and an extension joined to a  
15 proximal end of the catheter body, and  
the side-arm tube extends laterally from the catheter extension.